



Information about your water, drainage, wastewater and solid waste utility services.



Holiday Collection Schedule

Customers will have regular garbage, recycling, and food and yard waste collections on Veterans Day, Tuesday, November 11. Seattle Public Utilities will have no collections on the following holidays:

- Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 26
- Christmas Day, Friday, December 25
- New Year's Day, Friday, January 1

If your regular collection day falls on or after Thanksgiving, Christmas or New Year's Day, collection will be one day later that week.

Snow/Ice Collections

Garbage, recycling, and food and yard waste pickups can be delayed during snowy and icy weather. If your container is not picked up during a storm, leave it out to be collected the following day. If weather still prevents collection, put all of your items out the next week on your regular collection day.

Be the first to know! Sign up for *CurbWaste & Conserve E-News* to receive e-mail alerts on weather impacts to your services. Go to www.seattle.gov/lists.

Stay Green This Holiday Season

Seattle residents may recycle holiday trees and greens in their food and yard waste containers or at the city's North and South Recycling and Disposal stations between December 26, 2009 and January 10, 2010.

Food and yard waste subscribers can put trees and greens out on their regular collection day. Cut trees into sections, six feet long or shorter, with branches trimmed to less than four feet to fit into the collection trucks. Trunks should not exceed four inches in diameter. Bundle each section with sisal string or twine (not plastic). Decorated or flocked trees are not recyclable.

Residents can also drop off up to three trees per vehicle for free at the city's recycling and disposal stations. Trees should not be more than eight feet tall and must be free of decoration. Find station hours at www.seattle.gov/util/Services/Garbage or by calling (206) 684-3000.



Adopt a Drain and Prevent Flooding

Falling leaves and increased rains can block storm drains and lead to flooding. You can help prevent flooding in your neighborhood by volunteering with

the Adopt-A-Drain program. Adopt-A-Drain volunteers commit to keeping four or more storm drains free of leaves and debris. Seattle Public Utilities will support volunteers with gloves, bags, brooms, rakes, and safety vests, and can also help with disposing of leaves. To join, please call (206) 684-7647, leave your name, phone number, and address, and we will send you everything you need to get started. For more information, go to www.seattle.gov/util/adoptadrain.



Keep the Chill Out!

Each winter, homes are damaged due to water pipes that freeze and burst. By taking a few simple precautions, you can help save yourself from the mess, money and headaches of burst frozen pipes.

Before the Cold Hits

- Insulate pipes in your home's crawl spaces, basement and attic. Exposed pipes are more susceptible to freezing. The more insulation you use, the better the protection.
- Heat tape can be used to wrap pipes. Closely follow the manufacturer's installation and operation instructions.
- Seal leaks and close foundation vents to minimize cold air entering your house and freezing pipes. Open vents again in the spring to prevent dry rot.
- Drain and disconnect garden hoses and insulate hose bibs.
- Know where your water shut-off valve is located.



Keep Your Sewer Fat-Free

Homeowners and building owners are responsible for repairing and maintaining their side sewer connections to the city's sewer system. Sewer clogs often peak during the holiday season when turkeys, trimmings, and other holiday fare are prepared for friends and family.

Sewer Clogs Can Be Costly

When a sewer backup is caused by a side sewer failure, you may be faced with digging up your yard, removing the adjoining sidewalk, and/or opening up the street, potentially costing tens of thousands of dollars. Repairs are NOT typically covered by homeowners insurance.

An Ounce of Prevention...

You can prevent grease from clogging your side sewer by pouring used dairy products, fats, oil, grease or greasy foods into a lidded container and placing it in the trash - NOT down the sink drain.



Why Waste a Good Thing?

Pumpkins, turkey, ham and fruitcake leftovers, along with all other food scraps, can now go in your food and yard waste cart. This holiday season make a fresh start by not throwing them in the garbage. After being picked up at your curb, this valuable resource is given a second life as compost for local parks and gardens.

Last year, Seattle businesses and residents helped divert more than 80,000 tons of food and yard waste from the landfill by composting.

Tips to Store & Carry Food Scraps

- **Bag them!** Use a paper or approved compostable bag to store food scraps. When it's full, just toss the bag in your food and yard waste cart.
- **Put a lid on them!** Use a container with a tight-fitting lid to store food scraps in the kitchen. Rinse and reuse the container after emptying the contents into your cart.
- **Use the news!** Spread newspaper at the bottom of your cart or wrap your scraps in newspaper to help keep your cart clean.
- **Chill them!** Put leftovers in a container or wrap them in paper, then place them in your refrigerator until collection day.

Find out more by visiting us online at www.seattle.gov/util or by calling (206) 684-3000.

